



## *Yvonne Caamal Canul*

Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul (Goudreault), newly appointed as the Director of the Office of School Improvement in the Michigan Department of Education, brings a rich and distinguished educational background in assessment and curriculum to the agency. Yvonne was born in Michigan and raised in Latin America as the daughter of a United States foreign service diplomat. Upon returning to Michigan, she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Olivet College, Master of Arts from Michigan State University, and Doctorate from Olivet College. She began her teaching career in the Lansing School District in 1974 and for the next 27 years, was a teacher at the elementary, junior, and high school levels, director of bilingual and migrant programs, a high school assistant principal, the founder and principal of Lansing's first focus school, and between 1999 – 2001 Lansing's Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Professional

Development where she designed and initiated their core content area Pacing Guides and quarterly assessment program. For the past two and a half years, she was on loan from Lansing serving as the coordinator of MDE's Partnership for Success program where she developed an intensive technical assistance framework for high priority schools. Yvonne has presented at local, state, and national conferences, served as adjunct faculty at Michigan State University, and has received recognition for her work in the field of education, among which are:

- "Lansing's 100 to Watch", January, 2000. Selected by Lansing State Journal.
- Ph.D. Honoris Causa, May, 1998. Olivet College.
- Mayor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Education, 1997. Selected by Lansing's Mayor Hollister.
- Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, 1995. Recipient.
- Capital Area Hispanic Representatives Award for Achievement for 1994.
- Educational Policy Program Fellow, 1991. Institute for Educational Leadership.
- Irma Ramos Bilingual Educator of the Year for 1986. Selected by MEA.

Yvonne and her husband Victor live in Lansing, and just finished building their seaside "dream retirement home" in a remote fishing village on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

Canuly@michigan.gov